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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**BATESVILLE MAN SENTENCED
FOR FEDERAL CHILD PORN CRIMES**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, and Andrew G. Oosterbaan, Chief of the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section of the U.S. Department of Justice announced that BENJAMIN SOMERS, 23, Batesville, Indiana, was sentenced to 46 months imprisonment yesterday by U.S. District Judge David F. Hamilton following his guilty plea to transporting, distributing, and possessing child pornography. This case was the result of a investigation by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Indiana State Police, and the Batesville Police Department. The case arose from information provided to the Indiana State Police by the CyberTipLine of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

The indictment charged SOMERS with 12 counts of transporting image files containing

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child pornography in interstate commerce by means of a computer on November 2, 2001.

SOMERS was also charged with three counts of distributing image files containing child pornography by means of a computer on March 19, 2002, March 30, 2002 and April 4, 2002.

Finally, SOMERS was charged with one count of possessing a computer containing numerous image files of child pornography on April 17, 2002.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Steven D. DeBrotta and Trial Attorney Sara Gottovi of the Department of Justice, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Hamilton also imposed 3 years supervised release following SOMERS's release from imprisonment. Judge Hamilton also imposed special conditions which require SOMERS to register as a sex offender and prohibit him from possessing any computers or having any unsupervised contact with any minor child. SOMERS also agrees to forfeit the computer equipment involved in this crime.

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